NUMB. CCCXCVI.

The SPECTATOR.

Barbara, Celarent, Darii, Ferio, Baralipton.

Wednesday, June 4. 1712.

HAving a great deal of Buſineſs upon my Hands at preſent, I ſhall beg the Reader's Leave to preſent him with a Letter that I received about half a Year ago from a Gentleman of *Cambridge*, who ſtiles himſelf *Peter Quir*. I have kept it by me ſome Months, and though I did not know at firſt what to make of it, upon my reading it over very frequently I have at laſt diſcovered ſeveral Conceits in it: I would not therefore have my Reader diſcouraged if he does not make them at the firſt Peruſal.

To Mr. SPECTATOR.

From St. John's *College* Cambridge, *Feb.* 3. 1712.

SIR,

'THE Monopoly of Punns in this Univerſity has been an immemorial Privilege of the *Johnians*; and we can't help reſenting the late Invaſion of our ancient Right as to that Particular, by a little Pretender to Clenching in a neighbouring College, who in an Application to you by way of Letter, a while ago ſtiled himſelf *Philobrune*. Dear Sir, as you are by Character a profeſt Well-wiſher to Speculation, you will excuſe a Remark which this Gentleman's Paſſion for the *Brunette* has ſuggeſted to a Brother Theoriſt; 'tis an Offer towards a mechanical Account of his Lapſe to Punning, for he belongs to a Set of Mortals, who value themſelves upon an uncommon Maſtery in the more humane and polite Part of Letters. A Converſe by one of this Species of Females gives a very odd Turn to the Intellectuals of the captivated Perſon, and very different from that Way of Thinking which a Triumph from the Eyes of another more emphatically of the fair Sex, does generally occaſion. It fills the Imagination with an Aſſemblage of ſuch Ideas and Pictures as are hardly any thing but Shade, ſuch as Night, the Devil, *&c.* Theſe Portraitures very near over-power the Light of the Underſtanding, almoſt benight the Faculties, and give that melancholy Tincture to the moſt ſanguine Complexion, which this Gentleman calls an Inclination to be in a Brown-ſtudy, and is uſually attended with worſe Conſequences in Caſe of a Repulſe. During this Twilight of Intellects, the Patient is extremely apt, as Love is the moſt witty Paſſion in Nature, to offer at ſome pert Sallies now and then, by Way of Flouriſh, upon the amiable Enchantreſs, and unfortunately ſtumbles upon that mongrel miſcreated (to ſpeak in *Miltonic*) Kind of Wit, vulgarly term'd, the Punn. It would not be much amiſs to conſult Dr. *T*—— *W*—— (who is certainly a very able Projector, and whoſe Syſtem of Divinity and ſpiritual Mechanicks obtains very much among the better Part of our Under-Graduates) whether a general Inter-marriage, enjoyn'd by Parliament, between this Siſterhood of the Olive Beauties, and the Fraternity of the People call'd Quakers, would not be a very ſerviceable Expedient, and abate that Overflow of Light which ſhines within 'em ſo powerfully, that it dazzles their Eyes, and dances 'em into a thouſand Vagaries of Error and Enthuſiaſm. Theſe Reflections may impart ſome Light towards a Diſcovery of the Origin of Punning among us, and the Foundation of its prevailing ſo long in this famous Body. 'Tis notorious from the Inſtance under Conſideration, that it muſt be owing chiefly to the uſe of brown Jugg, muddy Beſch, and the Fumes of a certain memorable Place of Rendezvous with us at Meals, known by the Name of *Staincoat Hole*: For the Atmoſphere of the Kitchen, like the Tail of a Comet, predominates leaſt about the Fire, but reſides behind, and fills the fragrant Receptacle above-mention'd. Beſides, 'tis farther obſervable, that the delicate Spirits among us, who declare againſt theſe nauſeous Proceedings, ſip Tea, and put up for Critic and Amour, profeſs likewiſe an equal Abhorrency for Punning, the ancient innocent Diverſion of this Society. After all, Sir, tho' it may appear ſomething abſurd, that I ſeem to approach you with the Air of an Advocate for Punning, (you who have juſtified your Cenſures of the Practice in a ſet Diſſertation upon that Subject;) yet, I'm confident, you'll think it abundantly atton'd for by

‘ by obſerving, that this humbler Exerciſe may be
‘ as inſtrumental in diverting us from any innovating
‘ Schemes and Hypotheſis in Wit, as dwelling up-
‘ on honeſt Orthodox Logic would be in ſecuring
‘ us from Hereſy in Religion. Had Mr. *W*——*n*'s
‘ Reſearches been confin'd within the Bounds of
‘ *Ramus* or *Crackanthorp*, that learned News-monger
‘ might have acquieſc'd in what the holy Oracles
‘ pronounce upon the Deluge like other Chriſti-
‘ ans; and had the ſuprizing Mr. *L*——*y* been con-
‘ tent with the Employment of refining upon
‘ *Shakeſpear*'s Points and Quibbles, (for which he
‘ muſt be allow'd to have a ſuperlative Genius) and
‘ now and then penning a Catch or a Ditty, in-
‘ ſtead of inditing Odes, and Sonnets, the Gen-
‘ tlemen of the *Exchange* in the Pit would never
‘ have been put to all that Grimace in damning the
‘ Frippery of State, the Poverty and Languor of
‘ Thought, the unnatural Wit, and inartificial
‘ Structure of his Dramas.

I am,

SIR,

Your very humble Servant,

Peter de Quir.

At the Deſire of ſeveral Ladies of Quality.

For the Benefit of Mrs. MILLS.

By Her Majeſty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, To Morrow being Thurſday, the 5th Day of June, will be preſented The Tragedy of Macbeth. The Part of Macbeth by Mr. Mills, Macduff by Mr. Wilks, Banquo by Mr. Bullock, Lenox by Mr. Booth, Rosse by Mr. Johnſon, 1st Witch by Mr. Dogget, 2d Witch by Mr. Pinkethman, 3d Witch by Mr. Bullock. To which will be added, a Farce (ſo ere Act only) call'd, The Petticoat Plotter. The principal Parts to be perform'd by Mr. Bullock, Mr. Norris, Mr. Pack, and Mr. Leigh. To begin exactly at Six, this being the laſt time of Acting till Whitſon Monday.

At Whitton in Middleſex is to be Lett (with Land or without, and with furniture or without) a very good fashionable House of 8 Rooms on a Floor, with Sash Windows and Closets, and very good Offices, Laundry, Brew-house and Dove-house, Coach house and Stables, and very handſome Gardens wall'd round and planted with the beſt Fruit, adorn'd with Statues, fine Greens, and a Wilderneſs, and Kitchen Gardens, all lying compact. It is between Iſleworth and Twickenham, about 10 Miles from London, 3 from Brantford, 3 from Kingſton, 2 from Richmond, and between 2 and 3 from Hampton-Court. Enquire of Mr. Thomas Jackſon Surgeon at Twickenham, or at Tom's Coffee-house in Devereaux-Court near the Temple, London.

TO BE LETT.

At Dalſtone in Hackney, one Side of a large Brick-houſe, with Coach-houſes and Stables, and a large Garden planted with choice Wall Fruit; very convenient for a large Family. Inquire at Mr. Jones's at Dalſtone, or at Mr. Lloyd's, Stationer, near the Temple-Church.

The Sale of the Arrack, Tea and China-Ware by the Oley Frigate, which was to have been to Morrow the 5th Inſtant, is adjourned to Thurſday the 19th Inſtant.

This Day, at a Ware-houſe right againſt Guild-hall Back gate in Baſinghall-ſtreet, will begin the Sale by Retale (the Price being marked in the firſt blank Leaf of each Book) of the Library of the Reverend Dr. Beach late of Salisbury, being a very valuable Collection of Books. Catalogues are delivered gratis by D. Brown without Temple-bar, E. Curll at the Dial and Bible, and R. Gosling at the Mitre in Fleet-ſtreet, B. Clements in St. Paul's Church-yard, N. Cliff in Cheapſide, G. Strahan in Cornhill, J. Harding in St. Martin's-Lane, C. King in Weſtminſter-hall, the Guild-hall-Coffee-houſe, and at the Place of Sale. The Sale continues 3 Days and no longer, from 8 in the Morning to 8 in the Evening.

Lately Publiſhed,

A new Opera called Hercules: As it is to be performed at the Queen's Theatre in the Hay-Market. Printed for Jacob Tonſon at Shakeſpear's Head againſt Catherine-ſtreet in the Strand.

At the old Warehouſe, is juſt now made up a freſh Parcel of Morning-Gowns for Men and Women of ſpecial rich Damasks, Sattens, Callicoes and Stuffs, with very ſuitable linnings; and will be ſold much cheaper than the Shops can afford, the Goods being bought of People that broke. Several pretend to ſell under the ſame Notion, but the greateſt Choice and beſt Bargains is at the golden Sugar-Loaf right againſt the Horſe at Charing-Croſs, with the neweſt ſort of Carpets and Quilted Petticoats.

Juſt publiſh'd, A very neat Pocket Edition in 2 Vols. 12mo of the Works of Mr. Thomas Otway; containing, Alcibiades, Don Carlos, Titus and Berenice, Friendſhip in Faſhion, The Soldiers Fortune in 2 Parts, The Orphan, Caius Marius, and Venice Preſerv'd: With his Poems and Love-Letters. To which is added ſome Account of the Life and Writings of the Author. Printed for J. Tonſon in the Strand, and ſold by W. Taylor at the Ship in Pater-Noſter-Row.

Juſt Publiſh'd,

The Hiſtory of the Peace from the Arrival of M. Meſnager, Sept. 8. 1711. to the Return of the Earl of Strafford from Utrecht, May 15. 1712. Wherein the Proceeding of both Houſes of Parliament are inſerted, and the Reaſons for and againſt it fully Conſidered. Done out of French. Price 6 d. Sold by J. Baker in Pater-Noſter-Row; where may be had the Preſent State of the Parties in Great Britain. Price 4 s.

Juſt Publiſh'd,

The Judgment of the Church of England in the Caſe of Lay Baptiſm and of Diſſenters Baptiſm. By which it appears that She hath not, by any publick Act of hers, made or declared Lay-Baptiſm to be Invalid. The ſecond Edition. With an Additional Letter from Dr. John Cozin, afterwards Biſhop of Durham, to Mr. Cordel, who ſcrupled to communicate with the French Proteſtants, upon ſome of the modern Pretences. Sold by A. Baldwin near the Oxford-Arms in Warwick-Lane. Price 6 d. ☞ The ſaid Additional Letter may be had ſeparately, by thoſe who have the firſt Edition, for one Penny.

Lately Publiſh'd,

A Sermon on the Faſt-Day, January, the 16th 1711-12. Againſt ſuch as delight in War. By a Divine of the Church of England. The ſecond Edition. Printed by Sam. Buckley and Sold by A. Baldwin in Warwick-Lane. Price Three Pence.

The Diſtreſt Mother. A Tragedy. As it is acted at the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane by Her Majeſty's Servants. Written by Mr. Philips. Printed for S. Buckley at the Dolphin in Little-Britain, and J. Tonſon at Shakeſpear's Head againſt Catherine-ſtreet in the Strand.

Incomparable Perfuming Drops for Handkerchiefs and all other Linnen, Cloaths, Gloves, &c. Being the moſt excellent that purpoſe in the Univerſe; for they Stain nothing that is Perfumed with 'em, any more than fair Water, but are the moſt Delectable, Sweet and Odoriferous Perfume in Nature, good againſt all Diſeaſes of the Head and Brain: By their delicious Smell, they Comfort, Revive and Refreſh all the Senſes, Natural, Vital and Animal, chiefly the Spirits, clear the Heart, and drive away Melancholly. They alſo Perfume Rooms, Beds, Preſſes, Drawers, Boxes, &c. making them Smell ſingularly Fine and Odoriferous. They Perfume the Hands excellently, an extraordinary Scent for the Pocket, and in ſhort are ſo excellent, Pleaſant and Delightful, ſo admirably curious and delicate, and of ſo general Uſe, that nothing in the World can compare with 'em. To be only at Mr. Poyn's Toyſhop at the Angel and Crown in St. Paul's Church-Yard near Cheapſide, at 2 s. 6 d. a Bottle with Directions.

Conſumptions of all ſorts radically Cured, by a ſure Elixir peculiarly invented for that Diſeaſe; its wonderful Power ſufficiently explodes the Erronious Opinion, that Conſumptions are incurable, ſince it abſolutely retrieves the Patient, though reduced to meer Skeleton; quickly takes off all the Symptoms, as Cough, Faintneſs, Wheazing, Shortneſs of Breath, Pain or Weight in the Breaſt, Spitting of Blood, ſoreneſs of the Stomach, Sweats or Wind-pipe, all ſharp Rheums or Defluxions of ſharp Rheum, and all Fluxes and Agues. Affects, Hectick Feaver, &c. perfectly cures all internal Ulcers, reſtores all inward Waſtings, Weakneſs and decay of Nature, is Balſamic and Strengthning beyond Compariſon; it aſſuredly removes the firſt Principle, or cauſe of Conſumptions, reſtoring the Loſs of Stomach and firſt Paſſages, creating an Appetite, procuring a good Digeſtion, reducing the vicious Ferment of the Blood and Juices, exciting the Acrid Salts that erode the Lungs, certainly healing them therein, and infallibly curing all ſorts of Conſumptions, the worſt bad, in a very ſhort time to a Miracle. Price 3 s. 6 d. a Bottle with Directions. It is only at Mr. Osborn's Toyſhop at the Rose and Crown under St. Dunſtan's Church in Fleetſtreet.

The higheſt Compounded Spirit of Lavender The moſt Glorious (if the Expreſſion may be us'd) Bolivet for Scent and Flavour that can poſſibly be: In Vapours, ſick Fits, Faintings, &c. ſmelt too, or drop upon a bit of Loaf-Sugar, and eaten or drunk in Wine, Coffee, Tea, or what Liquor you pleaſe, ſo charms the Spirits, delights the Guſt, and gives ſuch Airs to the Countenance, as is not to be imagin'd but by thoſe that have try'd it. The neateſt Scent the things admir'd by moſt Gentlemen and Ladies, but this far exceeds as by far it exceeds it, to the gaining among all a more than common Eſteem. Is ſold only (in neat Flint Bottles fit for the Pocket) at 1 s. 6 d. each, at the Golden-Key in Warton's-Court, near Holborn-Bars.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in; as alſo by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.